The Member also prayed for the following concessions with a view to facilitate the spread of education in the community :—

(1) *Night schools.*—All the children of his community could not afford to attend day schools. Night schools should be started for the use of boys above 12 years. Teachers in such schools should be selected as far as possible from the Pulayas. There were members of his community who had studied up to the fourth class. They should be appointed as teachers.

(2) *Scholarships.*—At present, many of the scholarships were given to members of higher castes. The Pulayas stood sadly in need of such help. A Pulaya boy and a Pulaya girl from each of the taluks in Central Travancore should be granted scholarships from the Government.

(3) *Fees.*—Half-fee concession was not sufficient. The Pulaya pupils should be exempted from the payment of fees altogether.

(4) *Compulsory Education.*—It was stated that cent per cent of the school-going population was attending schools in six taluks. Possibly, Pulaya pupils were not included in the statistics. If education was made compulsory so far as the Pulayas were concerned, there would be many literates in the community ere long.

Dewan's reply.—If education was made compulsory, all the boys up to a certain age will necessarily have to be sent to school. If they were not so sent, the parents of the children will have to be punished. I doubt whether the Member realises these difficulties. In any case, it would not be advisable to enforce *compulsory* education in the case of the Pulayas at present. The other points mentioned will receive careful consideration.

128. Educational grievances of the Kaniyar community.

Mr. M. K. Padmanabha Kaniyar (Member, Nominated) said that sufficient encouragement was not given to the community by the Government for education and that the question was brought up by him at the last session of the Assembly. The Member thanked the Government for having ordered the Northern Range Inspector to hold an enquiry on the subject but he did not know what became of it.

The Member then made the following suggestions:—

(1) As the community was backward in English education, special concession should be given to the present students in English schools by recovering from them only half the prescribed fees.

(2) The students of the community should be granted admission to the Sanskrit College.

(3) A Sanskrit school should be established in Central Travancore for the use of the community, or, if that was not possible, the school started by them might be recognised and aided by the Government.

(4) The Ayurveda Patasala should be transferred from the present site and established in a healthier locality and better building. Increased scholarships should also be granted to students from the Kaniyar community.

Dewan's reply.—The question of throwing open the Sanskrit College to all classes is already under consideration. The building in which the College is now held has been taken up for a term of years and the period will expire only by the end of 1093. The transfer of the school to a place accessible to all people will receive early consideration. The other points are noted.

129. Grant of more scholarships to the pupils belonging to the depressed classes of the Christian community.

Mr. Abraham Isaac. (Member, Nominated) said that his community was also backward in point of education and prayed that more encouragement in that direction be given to them from the Goverment.

Free education was enjoyed by the rich and the poor alike, for studying up to Class IV in the Vernacular Schools. Considering the poverty of his community, the Member prayed that some additional concessions might be granted to them.

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Boys of his community were not allowed admission yet in all the Government schools in the State. The Member prayed that the above grievance might be redressed at least in the current year.

In regard to the award of scholarships, the Member said that, if a boy failed to get promotion to the higher class even on account of ill-health or any other unavoidable cause, he forfeited his scholarship. That rule worked hardship in the case of intelligent boys. In such cases, the Member prayed that the cause of the failure should be ascertained and the scholarship continued, if it was found that the boy had an aptitude for learning. For the benefit of others, technical schools should be started.

There was a School of Arts conducted by the community near the Lekshmipurom market in Kottayam. The site of the building belonged to a private person. The Member requested that, for locating the school, the site known as Panoorkulam, belonging to the Government, might be given to them and also a free grant of timber for a building.

The Member next prayed that a night school be specially started for the use of his community. Finally, the Member dwelt at length on the difficulty experienced by his people in imparting English education to their children. The Government had not rendered any help to them in the matter. He requested that arrangements might be made by the Government for educating at least five students from his community, in each of the Secondary schools. At present, nine students were studying English in the various English Schools of the State. He prayed that the best amongst them might be educated by the Government at their cost and that the remaining boys be granted scholarships.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

130. Raising the standard of the Kuzhithura Lower Grade Secondary School.

Mr. S. S. Ramaswami Iyer (Member, T. I. C., Kuzhithura) said that the want of a High School at Kuzhithura, was keenly felt and the people could not afford to go outside and obtain for their children the advantages of higher education. Both Dr. Mitchell and Dr. Bishop, Directors of Public Instruction, recommended to the Government the establishment of a High School at the place, but the proposal was not sanctioned by the Government. If a High School was established at Kuzhithurai, it would attract pupils from Neyyattinkara, Thuckalai, Eraniel and other places on account of the healthy situation, convenience and the cheap living at Kuzhithurai. The Member, therefore, prayed that a High school be established at Kuzhithurai.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

131. Raising the standard of the Neyyattinkara Lower Grade Secondary School.

Mr. N. O. Kesava Pillai (Member, T. I. C., Neyyattinkara) said that the present L. G. S. school had steadily grown into importance and that the absence of higher classes in the school stood in the way of increased attendance in the school. The people could not afford to send their children to Trivandrum and Nagercoil on account of their poverty. The difficulties could be obviated, if the standard of the school was raised up to the Sixth Form. The strength of the school would rise and the school would become self-supporting.

Dewan.—The Government have sanctioned the opening of the Fourth Form in the English School at Kanjiramkulam. How far is that place from Neyyattinkara ?

Member.—About 6 miles.

Dewan.—Is the distance more than 4 miles ?

Member.—The distance is nearly 6 miles. It is an out-of-the-way place and is more than 5 miles from Neyyattinkara. The place would not suit the Hindu boys. There is no water convenience also.

Dewan.—What is the strength of the III Form at present ?

Member.—Between 25 and 30. In the beginning of the year it was about 25 If higher classes are opened, the strength will increase gradually.

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